

Karner Blue Butterfly HCP
IOC Meeting
February 17, 2004
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
The Plaza Hotel and Suites
1202 West Clairemont, Eau Claire

MINUTES

Present: Dave Lentz, Matt Krumenauer, Ursula Petersen, Gary Birch, Jim Heap, Jim Christenson, Eric Ebersberger, Steve Olson, Megan Marie (recorder)

Anti-Trust Announcement

1. Agenda repair

2. Approve IOC minutes

- **10-8-2003**
- **12-10-03 (joint meeting with Monitoring Improvement Team)**

It was noted that the IOC Minutes for 10/8/03 are missing a date. Minutes for both meetings were approved.

ACTION ITEM: Megan will add date to 10/8/03 IOC minutes

3. Review ACTION ITEMS from previous IOC meetings

From 10-8-03:

Dave will send a letter to FWS requesting this amendment (Re: ANR Pipeline's request for a pre-managment survey exclusion around safety signs)

Update: This was done. Cathy Carnes has requested more data on this issue-still under review. ANR incorporated additional requested information into a new draft. Dave will discuss with Cathy at HCP Team meeting 2-18-04. (tomorrow)

Dave will talk to Natural Resources Foundation and the Fish and Wildlife Foundation about the possibility of setting up an account to bank HCP fees, or to solicit ideas for other ways to do this.

Update: Not done yet as of 10-8-03, still not done. Not a high priority at this time. Dave will revisit after new monitoring strategy is completed.

From 12-10-03:

Dave will find someone to volunteer to develop list of management activities/conservation Measures for areas 1-4 above. He will take the assignment for Barrens Management.

Update: This has been done. The management activities/adaptive management table was completed by the Monitoring Improvement Team at their 2-11-04 meeting.

4. Partner Inclusions

- **Certificate of Inclusion Issued**
American Transmission Co. was recently issued a CI (applause)
- **Existing applications' status report**
Onyx/Seven Mile Creek Landfill (Eau Claire) has submitted a SHCA and a CI is pending. Plum Creek Timber still does not have a CI. The FWS requested additional information, which Joel Aanensen supplied. A CI should be issued soon.
- **New or pending applications**

Menominee Co. Hwy. – Dave will be meeting next week to draw up an SHCA.

Adams-Columbia Elec. Cooperative. - A representative will be attending the Team Meeting and has said they are interested in becoming a partner.

Dave noted that there are still problems with the partner inclusion process at the FWS end.

5. Limited Partner streamlining progress status.

Dave has been working with Cathy Carnes to streamline the inclusion process and simplify involvement for limited partners. This task has been on hold due to the enormity and urgency of changes to the monitoring strategy.

6. Changed Circumstance/Unforeseen Circumstance minor amendment.

- **Review, discuss and decide on final proposed amendment.**

Dave summarized changed/unforeseen circumstances minor amendments:

- 1) Reporting notice time (“w/in30 days” changed to “@ annual report time”)
- 2) Recognizing Gypsy Moth infestation is not a changed circumstance
 - GM infestation falls under section 7 consultation, and GM control is not a circumstance. It is a management activity.
- 3) Changes to table 2.23 in HCP
 - Language changed from “conservation measures” to “assessment and management adjustments”

Dave also introduced the new Changed/Unforeseen Circumstances Reporting form, which will be part of the annual report. He will present these changes to partners at the Team meeting tomorrow (2-18-04)

Gary noted that these are three minor amendments, which will make things run smoother.

A motion was made to send letter to FWS requesting the three minor amendments be accepted.

All IOC members present voted in favor of accepting the amendments, but Dave noted that a quorum was not present at this meeting and that the absentee members would need to weigh in on the decision. Motion tabled.

ACTION ITEM: Gary will talk to Joel Aanensen and Jim Zahasky about the amendments tomorrow and get a vote from them.

2/18/04 Follow up to minor amendment above. Joel and Jim are in favor of the amendment as proposed. Steve Richter was absent.

7. Update on Monitoring Improvement Team (MIT) progress.

Dave summarized activities of MIT, and discussed the proposed changes to the monitoring strategy. The changes will be presented to the partners tomorrow. The new monitoring strategy will focus on assessing the impacts of management strategies.

The Effectiveness Monitoring data we have been receiving thus far has been providing some general trend analysis, but not proving the efficacy of the HCP. The MIT took a closer look at the current strategy, and also used the ESA HCP monitoring guidance from 1999/2000. This guidance was published after we had created our original monitoring strategy. The ESA guidance clarified what our objectives should be:

- 1) Assess compliance
- 2) Project impacts
- 3) Verify progress toward biological goals and objectives

Dave then summarized his thoughts on No Net Loss of Habitat (NNLOH). The MIT has concluded that it would be impossible to prove NNLOH because of the difficulty in determining baseline data and the inability of partners to survey “everything.” There is a need to separate recovery from “management w/ consideration” since the HCP is meant to maintain Karner populations while achieving numbers of Karners is a recovery goal for recovery properties. Without a recovery plan in place, the original monitoring strategy included a lot of recovery-based monitoring (Karner abundance, numbers). We can use “control sites” throughout the state as well as long-term study sites to determine the effects of management activities.

Dave stressed that the biggest change will be for Shifting Mosaic partners. The changes to the monitoring strategy will be focused on site selection rather than survey protocol. We would not continue to randomly select sites at large from a single pool to be surveyed. SM partners will decide where best to focus monitoring/management activities. They will then be focusing on areas where Karners or viable habitat occurs instead of swamps and parking lots.

Gary asked if the service would have problems with SM partners choosing their own sites to survey. Dave answered that this is where the trust issue comes into play. SM partners are all very eager to please and have a positive attitude about the HCP. The timber industry wants to do good by the HCP. We need to continue building this trust.

Jim C. stated that there is a need to chase the goal of learning and then applying adaptive management. Dave noted that one problem with the current monitoring strategy is that it has not triggered any adaptive management. This discussion was followed by a summary of the Adaptive Management Studies table created by members of the MIT. Dave said that he would show this to partners and ask them to determine which management activities they will be planning (when & where).

8. Prepare for February 18, 2004 HCP Team meeting.

Gary noted that the main purpose of the HCP Team meeting would be to introduce and discuss the new monitoring strategy with partners. Dave said that it would be up to the IOC members to draw input from partners. He stressed the necessity of partners supporting changes.

Dave said he would like to get volunteers/ideas/possible dates for summer HCP field trip at the Team meeting. Matt K. suggested a field trip focusing on ROW's.

Gary brought up the question of timing for the new monitoring strategy. He stressed that partners will want to know what will be expected this year.

Ursula mentioned that a good point to stress when presenting information to partners is that the data from recovery efforts will still be in place. This will make it easier to focus monitoring on management activities.

9. Closing (5min.)

- **Summarize key points, action items, and December 10, 2003 agenda items**
- **Set next meeting time**

IOC will meet next on April 14, 2004. Location likely to be Schmeekle Reserve in Stevens Point.

ACTION ITEM: Megan to see if Schmeekle Reserve is available for April mtg.

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